

Message Text

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FOR ROBERT ROSENSTOCK, US LEGAL DIVISION ONLY

FOL RPT SAN JOSE 3247 ACTION SECSTATE INFO GUATEMALA MANAGUA

PANAMA SAN SALVADOR TEGUCIGALPA 2 JUL QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 3247

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CS

SUBJ: WILKINS/VESCO STORY: EXCELSIOR PRINTS WILKINS' SWORN
STATEMENT MADE IN COSTA RICA

REF: SAN JOSE 3220 AND PREVIOUS

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: EXCELSION PUBLISHES WILKINS' SWORN
SAN JOSE STATEMENT; EMBASSY RELEASES WILKINS' SWORN
NEW YORK STATEMENT, WHICH CONTRADICTS WHAT THE EX-CONVICT
STATED HERE. AMBASSADOR'S LETTER TO MINISTER OF PUBLIC
SECURITY NOTES THAT MINISTRY, ACCORDING TO EXCELSION, PRO-
VIDED VESCO'S LAWYERS A COPY OF WILKINS' STATEMENT A WEEK
AGO, BUT HAS NOT YET SENT ONE TO EMBASSY. END SUMMARY.

2. JULY 2 EXCELSION REPRODUCES MAJOR PARTS WILKINS'
DECLARATION WHICH WAS MADE MAY 7 WHILE WILKINS WAS
ENCARCERATED IN SAN JOSE (SAN JOSE 2547 NOTAL).

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COPY OF FIRST PAGE OF DECLARATION ON STAMPED LEGAL

PAPER IS ALSO REPRODUCED. TEXT INTERSPERSED WITH
COMMENTS REHASHING PREVIOUSLY CARRIED DISTORTIONS
AND HALF TRUTHS.

3. IN VIEW PUBLICATION THIS DECLARATION, WHICH
MINISTER OF PUBLIC SECURITY HAS YET TO PROVIDE EMBASSY
(BUT WHICH HE GAVE TO VESCO LAWYERS ON JUNE 24),
EMBASSY HAS RELEASED TO EXCELSIOR, WITH REQUEST TO
PUBLISH, COPY OF WILKINS' MAY 21, 1976, SWORN STATEMENT
IN NEW YORK (SEPTTEL).

4. AMBASSADOR HAS ALSO SENT FOLLOWING LETTER TO
MINISTER OF PUBLIC SECURITY CHARPENTIER SENDING ALONG
MAY 21 WILKINS DECLARATION, AND EXPRESSING EMBASSY'S

SURPRISE AT READING WILKINS' SAN JOSE DECLARATION IN EXCELSIOR.

"YOU WILL RECALL THAT DURING OUR MEETING ON MAY 24, 1976
WHEN YOU SHOWED ME A STATEMENT OF MAY 7, 1976 BY
MR. JAMES W. WILKINS, YOU TOLD ME THAT ON THE PRESIDENT'S
ORDERS YOU COULD NOT GIVE ME A COPY AND THAT YOU WOULD NOT
GIVE ONE TO ANYBODY ELSE. I WAS THEREFORE SURPRISED TO READ
IN TODAY'S EXCELSIOR THAT SINCE SUCH MATTERS "SUN ASUNTOS DE
INTERES PUBLICO Y NO SECRETOS DE ESTADO (ARTICULO 30 DE LA
CONSTITUCION POLITICA)" YOU HAD PROVIDED A COPY OF THE
DECLARATION TO MR. VESCO'S ATTORNEY ON JUNE 24, 1976. I HAVE
NOT YET RECEIVED A COPY, AND WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR SENDING ME
ONE.

"ENCLOSED FOR YOUR INFORMATION IS A COPY OF ANOTHER DECLARATION
SIGNED BY MR. WILKINS IN NEW YORK ON MAY 21, 1976. THIS IS THE
SAME DECLARATION WHICH MR. LANE SHOWED TO YOU ON JUNE 1, 1976.
IN IT, MR. WILKINS DENIES THAT HE WAS SENT TO COSTA RICA TO
ASSASSINATE OR KIDNAP MR. VESCO OR TO DO ANYTHING ILLEGAL IN
COSTA RICA.

"SINCE MR. WILKINS' STATEMENT ON MAY 7 HAS NOW BEEN PRINTED,
IN THE INTEREST OF FAIRNESS WE ARE SENDING A COPY OF HIS
MAY 21 DECLARATION TO THE EXCELSIOR WITH THE REQUEST THAT IT
BE PRINTED."

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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